

entertain the packing of apples in oats or other such material. The varieties most profitable for the English market is, in a measure, still an open question; but of the kinds chiefly grown here, the *Gravenstein*, *Ribston Pippin*, *Blenheim Pippin*, *Pomme Gris*, *Baldwin*, *Spitzenburg*, and *Russet*, are best suited to the requirements of the trade at present. Sample lots of *Bishop Pippins* have not been received with much favor, owing chiefly to their spotted appearance on arrival; the *Northern Spy* suffers in the same way. Both these last-named varieties are too tender skinned to stand the voyage. The *Newtown Pippin*, contrary to the expectation of many, continues to hold its position above everything else; but on account of the poor growth of this tree with us, it is not likely to become a favorite with the orchardists of this valley.

Shippers and growers alike, will do well to guard against having too many varieties or small lots of odd varieties, particularly if there be a possibility of their falling into the hands of auctioneers, of whom we shall speak presently.

What we most feel the want of this season, is direct steam communication with London, by means of boats especially adapted for the carrying of fruit, and that at a reasonable and established rate of freight throughout the season; but to be subjected to the arbitrary monopoly of one Line, who advance their freights from one to two shillings per barrel, as the demand for space increases, and that by boats sailing *via* ports in the United States, taking upwards of thirty days from the time of shipment at Halifax till their arrival in London, is an imposition rather greater than Bluenose blood is disposed to stand, without a protest at least. The requirements of this increasing trade demand, and must have, direct steamers to London—"The great market of the world."

It has been the general custom in London to sell apples at auction, but judging from three seasons' experience and personal observation, during a recent visit, we became convinced that this was not the most advantageous method of disposing of our fruit, and succeeded in establishing relations with an old and thoroughly reliable firm of upwards of forty years standing, having a very large first-class trade. This firm has undertaken to make a speciality of Nova Scotia apples, provided, that is, and with the express understanding, that we send them nothing but first-class stock, put up in such a manner as will meet with the requirements of their customers. Such agents as these, selling as